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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 298
By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to direct the Subcommittee on the Legislative Computer System of the Joint Legislative Services Committee to study the feasibility of providing a laptop computer to each member of the General Assembly.

WHEREAS, laptop computer technology now offers a versatile compact tool for the user to access a wealth of information from a limitless spectrum of sources and to produce correspondence and reports using such data while the user is in a variety of non-office settings; and

WHEREAS, a number of other states have found such technology to be highly adaptable to use by members of the legislature, enabling them to more efficiently and effectively carry out their constitutional responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the utilization of such technology can improve communication between a legislator and staff in his or her district office or legislative office, as well as with other offices, without the medium of paper, thereby reducing the waste of wood resources and contributing to environmental goals; and

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee has not yet elected to provide laptop computers to members of the General Assembly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-
HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

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CONCURRING, That the Subcommittee on the Legislative Computer System of the Joint Legislative Services Committee is directed to study the feasibility of providing a laptop computer to each member of the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That for purposes of the conduct of the study and in deliberations concerning findings and recommendations, that the Subcommittee on the Legislative Computer System shall be joined by one (1) member of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and one (1) member of the Senate to be appointed by the Speaker of the Senate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Subcommittee shall consider the experience of other states that have elected to provide each member of the legislature with a laptop computer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That staff support shall be provided by the Office of Legislative Information Services, and that the Subcommittee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the One-Hundredth General Assembly no later than February 2, 1998.